

**STATEMENT BY U.S. REP. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN ON
BRAC RECOMMENDATIONS
MAY 13, 2005**

“The Department of Defense’s BRAC recommendations will mean a significant gain of more than 9,200 jobs for Marylanders. I am extremely pleased that the Pentagon has recognized the important contributions made to our national security by defense and intelligence facilities located in Maryland. The Pentagon has recommended significant increases for Fort Meade (National Security Agency) in Anne Arundel County, the National Naval Medical Center Bethesda in Montgomery County, and Aberdeen Proving Ground in Harford County. It’s clear that Maryland’s unique capabilities – in both personnel and equipment – are an important part of the global war on terrorism.

“Today’s base closure recommendations will help the military to save billions of dollars over the next few years, and better position our troops and equipment to fight the emerging threats of the 21st century.

“Today’s recommendations are preliminary and I look forward to working with the BRAC Commissioners when they visit Maryland during the summer to continue stressing the critical role of Maryland facilities in fighting the war on terror.”

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